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decoding means for decoding the received encoded bitstream data to provide one or more decoded signals supplied to the one or more peripheral devices;

sending/receiving means for sending the received encoded bitstream data to the recording unit to be recorded by the recording unit and for receiving recorded encoded bitstream data from the recording unit; and

routing means for selectively routing one of the received encoded bitstream data from said receiving means and the recorded encoded bitstream data from said sending/receiving means to said decoding means,

wherein the one of the received encoded bitstream data and the recorded encoded bitstream data supplied to said decoding means passes through said routing means so that the one of the received encoded bitstream data and the recorded encoded bitstream data supplied to said decoding means is always under control of said routing means.

24. (New) An apparatus according to claim 23, wherein said routing means includes a controller for providing an instruction to control said routing means; and a selector for sending the one of the received encoded bitstream data and the recorded encoded bitstream data including only data packets of a specific program to one of said decoding means and said recording unit in accordance with the instruction from said controller.

25. (New) A bitstream data recording/reproducing apparatus which uses an information storage medium having a data area and a management area, said apparatus comprising:

a data processing unit for providing bitstream data based on a first reference clock;

a drive unit for recording the provided bitstream data in the data area of said

information storage medium based on a second reference clock and for reproducing recorded bitstream data from the information storage medium; and

means for synchronizing the first reference clock with the second reference clock.

26. (New) An apparatus according to claim 25, further comprising:

means for generating a time relation table relating to the first and second reference clocks; and

means for recording the time relation table in the management area of said information storage medium.

27. (New) A method for recording bitstream data using an information storage medium having a data area and a management area, said method comprising:

providing the bitstream data based on a first reference clock;

recording the provided bitstream data in the data area of said information storage medium based on a second reference clock; and

synchronizing the first reference clock with the second reference clock.

28. (New) A method according to claim 27, further comprising:

generating a time relation table relating to the first and second reference clocks; and
recording the time relation table in the management area of said information storage medium.--

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended is respectfully requested.

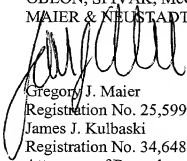
This application is a Divisional of co-pending U.S. Application, Serial No. 09/662,584, filed September 15, 2000, which is a Continuation of International Application PCT/JP00/00944 with an international filing date of February 18, 2000.

Claims 23-28 are presently active in this case, Claims 1-22 having been canceled and Claims 23-28 added by way of the present Preliminary Amendment.

Accordingly, examination on the merits of Claims 23-28 is believed to be in order and an early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Registration No. 25,599
James J. Kulbaski
Registration No. 34,648
Attorneys of Record



22850

(703) 413-3000
Fax #: (703) 413-2220
GJM:JJK:CTS/law

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